ly or asexually, the mode of reproduction depending more especially upon the external conditions.

Speaking generally, it is not possible to say of a *spore* of any given Thallophyte that the product of its germination will necessarily be a sexual plant, nor is it possible to say of the *oospore* that the product of its germination will be necessarily an asexual plant.

The results of the discussion are summed up as follows:—It appears that it is impossible to detect any distinct alternation of generations in the life-histories of Thallophytes, with the exception of the *Coleochatæ* and the *Characeæ*.—A. P. MORGAN.

MELANTHIUM VIRGINICUM.—Seeing Mr. Broadhead's notice of the above species I would like to give my observation about it. I found this beautiful plant first in 1874, on a piece of woodland where the underbrush was very small, along with *Stenanthium angustifolium*. But as soon as the underbrush grew higher it was nearly gone. This year upon another piece of woodland, where I had before only once found a few specimens, the bushes had been burned, and I found *Melanthium Virginicum* in great abundance. It also grows abundantly on the Missouri Pacific Railroad, between here and Kirkwood. It is evident that the plant likes air and light. If the light is excluded, the bulbs simply remain in the ground and do not grow.—

H. EGGERT, *St. Louis, Mo.*

THE GENERA PLANTARUM of Bentham and Hooker.—The first part of the third and concluding volume of this important work—to comprise the remaining Dicotyledonous orders—is now in press, and will be published in London at the close of the year. It is convenient and may not be improper to announce in the BOTANICAL GAZETTE, that most of the botanists of the United States who possess this indispensable work thus far have procured it through the mediation of the subscriber, who, in view of the number of copies thus taken is supplied at a considerable discount, the whole advantage of which inures to the recipient. The two volumes already completed are published at £5, 6, 0. The price charged the subscriber is £4, 8, 0. The new part will be furnished at a similar discount. Botanists who have in this way obtained the published parts, and who wish to receive the remainder through the same channel, are requested to communicate their wishes in this respect, without delay, to The Curator of the Herbarium of Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.—

ASA GRAY.